

**METHOD, APPARATUS AND SYSTEM FOR GUARANTEED PACKET  
DELIVERY TIMES IN ASYNCHRONOUS NETWORKS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5           A method and apparatus for guaranteeing packet delivery times in an  
asynchronous network includes generating a global timing schedule to  
synchronize the communication between the terminals of a network and, in  
response to at least one trigger, transmitting and receiving data according to the  
generated global timing schedule. To optimize bandwidth utilization, more than  
10 one terminal may transmit data during a specific time slot of each time frame of  
the global timing schedule as long as no more than one terminal attempts to  
transmit data to a common other terminal.